

VA Long Beach Healthcare System

Communications Closet Requirements

Communications Closet provides two functions: they provide a connection point for backbone cables (Telco, T-1 lines, Fiber, Etc.) and the distribution point (CAT6) for user connectivity.

All phone and data cabling shall be installed by the contractor and shall be accordance with EIA/TIA 568B, 569 and EIA/TIA 606 Communication System specifications, and Building Industry Consulting Service International (BICSI) Standards design manuals. The complete cable distribution system shall be labeled in accordance with the latest edition/revision level of ANSI/TIA/EIA 606, Administration Standard for the Telecommunications Infrastructure of Commercial Buildings.

Minimum requirements:

- Must be a secure room with access to authorized personnel only. Access to communication closet will be controlled and monitored at all times.
- Communications closets must be a minimum of 8' X 10' and must have a minimum of 3, dedicated Emergency Power 20 amp circuits with adequate environmental controls to maintain temperate in room between 68 to 70 degrees to prevent damage to electronic equipment.
- Communications Closet must be equipped with four post racks for equipment such as UPS, network switches, router, telephone equipment, etc.
- VALBHS utilizes a Sumitomo air blown fiber backbone. All Closets in Long Beach are connected via tube cell for the air blown fiber. A minimum of 6 pair single mode fiber and 3 pair multi-mode fiber. Closets in areas with high volume of users may require additional fiber, these locations should be discussed with IT Department for proper design of Closet.
- There will be a minimum of one communications closet per floor.
- These closets can support both telephone and data access.
- Data patch panels and telephone termination blocks will be separated as room size and design allows.
- Additional communications closets will be required when the distance between a closet and its furthest supported data end-point exceeds 270 feet or approximately 80 meters.
- At least one wall will have fire rated plywood with rating stamp exposed and on that wall, all patch panels, fiber termination distribution units (TDU), 110-blocks and termination equipment shall be installed.

- Closets must have an isolated ground
- When a building has multiple floors, closets should be arranged such that the closets are directly above one another. This ensures direct access between closets and also provides for the shortest cable path.
- Cabling will follow Long Beach Standard Operating Procedure, IT SOP# 07-15, Cabling Installation, Labeling and Testing
- Locations of Closets will be approved by IT Department prior to construction of project.
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